EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of National City was selected to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. National City (population 61,194) is adjacent to San Diego Bay just south of downtown San Diego. It is estimated that there are more than 200 brownfield properties within the city limits, a legacy of industrial land-use activities in the area. These sites negatively impact local sensitive natural resources, including San Diego Bay and the Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, and pose a risk to area residents. The diverse nature of industrial activity has resulted in releases of a broad range of contaminants, including volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, PCBs, and heavy metals. About 61 percent of National City residents are Hispanic. The median household income for city residents is 39 percent below the state median. Cleanups funded through the RLF grant will reduce exposure to contaminants and create opportunities for redevelopment.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

\$800,000 for hazardous substances

\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of National City for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which the City of National City will provide loans and subgrants to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with petroleum and hazardous substances. Grant funds also will be used to document and oversee cleanups.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team (415) 972-3091 EPA Region 9 Brownfields Web site (http://www.epa.gov/region9/brownfields)

Grant Recipient: City of National City, CA (619) 336-4255

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.